



**George
Heriot's
School**
Founded 1628

Welcome to the Senior School

Whether your son or daughter enters the Senior School from our own Junior School, from another school in the city, or from further afield, they are guaranteed a warm welcome. In this booklet, the Senior School Departments 'set out their stalls'. As the Head of Senior School, I can certainly vouch both for the professionalism and interest of our teachers, and the excellence of our results.

At NAT5, the 2023 cohort achieved 98.6% A-C Grades, with 84.1% graded at A. This represented a significant improvement on our last entirely normal set of examinations, back in 2019. Higher results were similarly impressive, with 97.0% achieving A-C grades (72.3% A Grade). Our S6 set cohort completed the set with 94.3% A-C at Advanced Higher (66.7% A Grade). As we returned to a near normal examination diet, it was also lovely to see 48 S6 pupils achieving straight A Grades at Advanced Higher - the highest number for a decade, aside from the COVID-affected 2021 examination series.

All our results, reflect the dedicated input of staff who have encouraged the very best out of their pupils. The values of hard work and genuine pursuit of knowledge stack up to bring us results which have shown consistent excellence for many years - resulting in us being named The Times' 'Scottish Independent School of the Decade', in 2020.

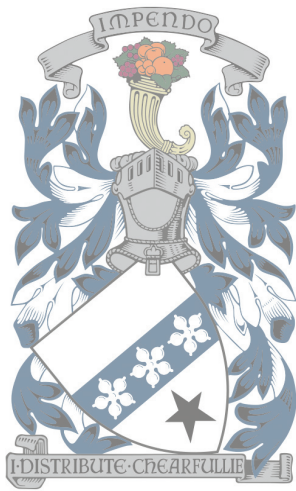
Academic success, however important, is not the only ingredient of a great secondary school. Our primary mission is to produce young people who are comfortable in their own skin and ready to meet the next stage of their lives with maturity, preparedness and optimism. We recognise that developing relationships, keeping fit, and being treated with respect, are all part of the successful transition to adulthood. Accordingly, we offer a quite astonishing range of co-curricular activities, both competitive and non-competitive, from which we hope every one of our pupils can find their niche. An amazing range of sports; a variety of musical opportunities; drama, including musicals, and a host of other pastimes are all there to help shape and extend our students.

Very important too, is the need for young people to feel that they are pursuing their lives at school in an environment that offers sound advice and help whenever necessary; where staff really know their pupils and what makes them 'tick'. Our Guidance Staff, Senior Managers and Careers Team invest much of their time in helping students with curricular, vocational and pastoral guidance. In disciplinary terms, the emphasis is on fairness and consistency. Visitors to the School often comment on its happy but purposeful buzz, and we believe that a significant factor in this is the mutual trust and respect that exists between pupils and staff.

A particular word needs to be said about our Sixth Year 'package' - a bridge between school and what lies beyond - where the emphasis on greater independence and voluntary service means we avoid the feelings of aimlessness and disenchantment that can sometimes haunt those students pursuing their post-Higher year elsewhere.

The Senior School, like the Junior School, is about progression. It is about growing up in an environment that encourages the setting of realistic goals all the way through to Advanced Higher. We are proud of the achievements, academic and otherwise, of our pupils. However, most importantly, the Senior School cherishes a calm, caring and happy atmosphere in which staff and pupils work together.

Paul A Fairclough
Head of Senior School



George Heriot's School

Founded 1628

SQA Examination Results 2023

Session 2022-2023 saw the curriculum in Scotland as well as the examinations procedure move another step closer to pre Covid norms. While many courses are still not quite back to their full pre-pandemic status – with most still having amended content and/or assessment, the undisrupted full formal exam diet was thankfully much more on a par with the past. Our S4-6 pupils rose to all challenges in their path this session, and the evidence below suggests they have once again dealt with these extremely well. They have demonstrated excellent attainment - once again producing an outstanding set of results.

The summary of Heriot's results from the attainments demonstrated by pupils in 2023 is shown below.

S4

	Presentations	A	B	C	Total (A-C)
S4 National 5	1410	84.1 %	11.0 %	3.5 %	98.6 %
S5 Higher	913	72.3 %	18.2 %	6.6 %	97.0 %
S6 Higher	106	48.1 %	23.6 %	17.9 %	89.6 %
S6 Advanced Higher	438	66.7 %	21.5 %	6.2 %	94.3 %

It was another very good year for S4 with over 50% of our S4 pupils achieving a 'clean sweep' of A grades across all their subjects. The overall pass rate also remained very high, with pupils sitting on average 7.8 National 5 exams each.

S5

As ever, the S5 Higher figures are the benchmark by which the session's results will be judged, and in what is in effect their first SQA exam diet, our S5 pupils excelled themselves. This year 41% of our S5 cohort attained 5, 6 or 7 As, with an average presentation rate of 4.9 Highers per pupil across the year group.

S5 Higher Results: 10 Year Trend A–C Passes

S6

2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
97.0%	97.7%	99.2%	99.3%	98.7%	96.9%	98.1%	97.5%	96.8%	97.4%

Our S6 students also produced an outstanding performance with 66.7% of all awards being at A. S6 pupils completed on average 2.34 Advanced Highers, and were awarded on average, 2.21 of them.

Overall, the 2023 results represent an excellent performance throughout the course of the year by Heriot's pupils, and we are very proud of them. It is important that each pupil does their best and achieves the highest grades of which they are capable. Whether amongst the highfliers with multiple A Grades or amongst those who have achieved personal bests with B or C Grades, each and every one deserves to be congratulated. Heriot's expects its pupils to work hard, with effort, commitment, and enthusiasm. Once again, this year they have rewarded not just the professionalism and dedication of their teachers, but also the support and encouragement which they have received from both school and home.

James Rodger-Phillips
Depute for Curriculum and Assessment

Art and Design

Art and Design offers opportunities to explore creative ideas. We encourage pupils to respond to the subject with confidence and imagination, developing specialist techniques in a range of media as well as broader transferable skills like problem solving, divergent thinking and aesthetic judgement.

Pupils learn to analyse visually, communicate ideas effectively, show expression and imagination, evaluate and appreciate our visual world. Drawing is central to our subject. We offer a progressive course in practical art and design skills from P3 to S2. The pupils work on a range of projects from painting and printmaking to textile and architectural design.

In S3 pupils can opt to study National 5 Art and Design, often progressing to study Higher in S5. In S6 we offer Higher Photography and Advanced Higher Art and Design where pupils can refine their drawing skills in additional life drawing classes. We also offer a range of specialist certificated interest classes such as ceramics, illustration and textiles. Our courses at all levels also include discursive critical analysis of Artists and Designers – traditional and contemporary.

Beyond the classroom we offer clubs and workshops and have run many Art and Design trips, visiting galleries locally, nationally and internationally and developing cultural awareness in locations such as London, Paris, Rome and New York. We prepare our pupils for career prospects in a wide range of creative industries. Former pupils have gone on to study our subject at Art Schools far and near, recent destinations include Glasgow School of Art, Bath University, Central St Martins, London and ESMOD International Fashion Institute, Paris.

Biology

Our departmental aim is to enable pupils to develop the intellectual and practical skills essential to understand Biology, and to appreciate its relevance to their everyday lives.

The subject is presented in a lively and interesting manner which illustrates its importance and relevance to scientists and non-scientists alike. Pupils are encouraged to cultivate the skills and attitudes needed to understand and evaluate the contribution of biology to modern society. Our S1 and S2 pupils follow in-house courses leading onto National 5 in S3 and S4. CfE Higher Biology and CfE Higher Human Biology courses are offered to pupils in S5. Pupils who would like to take one of these courses as a Higher in S6 are also welcome. The CfE Advanced Higher course is only offered to pupils who have already achieved at Higher level in either Biology or Human Biology.

Since the discovery of DNA, Biology as a subject has made more progress in our understanding of humanity than any other. We are delighted to be teaching in recently refurbished laboratories which were carefully designed to optimise the IT experience and to enable practical work to take place more efficiently.

Business Education

The Business Education Department is fortunate to be one of the few across the country to offer such an extensive range of courses. In S2 pupils are exposed to the dynamic and exciting world of business through our stimulating S2 course. Following on from this, pupils in S3 can opt for N5 Accounting, Business and Economics, with all 3 subjects allowing progression to Higher and Advanced Higher level. S6 pupils are also offered interest classes such as Microsoft Office Specialist, Young Enterprise and Growing Future Assets. All 3 provide participants with the opportunity to obtain extremely beneficial transferable skills that will be advantageous to any S6 pupil regardless of their post Heriot's destination.

Our main aim is to create an enjoyable classroom working environment that:

- Encourages pupils to work both independently and co-operatively;
- Challenges each individual pupil and instils an enquiring mind;
- Develops a wide range of skills for learning, life and work;
- Ultimately allows pupils to thrive and reach their full potential.

Chemistry

Chemistry is the study of matter and the changes it can undergo. Understanding the basic properties of matter and learning how to predict and explain how they change when they react to form new substances is what chemistry and chemists are all about.

Chemistry, often called the central science because of its importance in connecting with other sciences including biology, physics, medicine, engineering and material science, is not limited to beakers and laboratories. It is all around

us, from areas as diverse as food and drink, archaeology, biotechnology and environmental protection. A basic knowledge of chemistry will help all pupils understand their material world.

The Department's aims are:

- To develop pupils' understanding of the nature of matter – its properties, reaction and uses – through a range of teaching strategies;
- To improve the scientific literacy of all pupils and to increase their understanding of social and environmental issues;
- To develop the problem solving and investigative skills of pupils in a scientific context.

Citizenship

Citizenship is studied by all pupils in S1 to S5. Citizenship aims to equip all students to:

- Learn how to deal with the challenges of our school and, later on, society;
- Lead lives and make decisions, both in and out of school, that are personally satisfying and socially constructive;
- Interact effectively with their natural and social environment;
- Make the transition to adult and working life.

The units in all Citizenship courses are designed to encourage individual work, paired work and group work which can easily lead into whole class discussions on a number of issues which affect our pupils. We also work with outside agencies such as Police Scotland, Enterprise Soapbox, Alcoholics Anonymous and the RAP Project who assist with the delivery of courses.

Examples of units studied in S1–S5 include: Drugs, Alcohol, First Aid, Personal Safety, Financial Education, Enterprise, Political Awareness, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Sexual Health and Relationships, Study Skills, Organ Donation and Practical Relaxation.

Classics

Classics refers to the study of the languages, literatures, material culture, and history of the societies of the ancient world, together with their influence on later periods and cultures right up to the present day. It is one of the most varied and interdisciplinary of subject areas and includes literature, history, philosophy, art and archaeology.

Classics is introduced through interest classes in Junior School and Latin is taken by all S1 & S2 pupils, who may then follow the levels through National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher. Translating the language and appreciating the wide range of literature forms our central focus; while time is taken to consider Classical society, which, taught with fun and imagination, enhances a rich and fascinating cultural experience and enlightens modern practices.

Higher Classical Studies, an S6 option, investigates Athens and Rome through literature and archaeology with tutorial-style learning. The birth and value of Democracy; the pressures of power and the conflicts of status give us some vigorous discussions.

Classical Greek is offered as an interest course from S1 upwards leading to study at certificate level in S6. The language of Herodotus, Sophocles and Plato resounds for us and gives a good platform for modern Greek.

Pupils from P6 onwards can choose to relax in cosy Classics lunch clubs while absorbing the most exciting of ancient tales from mythology and epic. A Classics film club analyses modern perceptions of the Classical world.

Engagement in National competitions for mythology, translating and linguistics often brings laurels home to Heriots.

Computing Science

Computers play an increasingly important role in our society, at work, in the home and in leisure time. The Computing Science Department aims to equip pupils with the computational thinking skills they require to become confident digital citizens.

Specialist Computing Science teaching begins in P6, introducing coding and core ICT skills. This continues in S1 and S2, with an emphasis on computational thinking through more advanced study of Computing Science as a discrete subject. At National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher, pupils study principles of Computing Science through programming, computer systems, web and database development.

The department also runs popular extra-curricular clubs such as games development and creative computing. Pupils also regularly participate and achieve success in various awards and competitions.

Design & Technology

The courses offered reflect the evolutionary nature of design and technology which is an important factor of modern day life. Pupils have the opportunity to express their individuality and are encouraged from an early stage to work independently. A wide variety of teaching methods are used to nurture creativity and promote thinking “outside the box”. S1 and S2 is a broad course where pupils are given an introduction to as many aspects of design and technology as we can squeeze in. Pupils can then choose to study Graphic Communication and/or Design & Manufacture which are both offered from National 5 to Advanced Higher level.

Aims

- To develop pupils’ ability to solve problems by engaging in the research, design, implementation and evaluation aspects of technological activities;
- To develop pupils’ understanding of the importance of design and technology in modern society;
- To encourage pupils to apply knowledge and skills by thinking and acting confidently, imaginatively, creatively and with sensitivity;
- To promote collaborative skills.

Drama

The courses within the Drama Department will allow the pupils to explore language, movement and theatre as a means of expression.

Pupils will undertake practical activities to develop communication, teamwork and problem solving skills and the ability to work positively with others and discuss their own and others’ work. Within their learning experiences pupils will be exploring the quality and nature of relationships and will be encouraged to explore their own and others’ assumptions, attitudes and values.

As learners develop practical skills in performing, they will reflect on how their use of self-expression, language and movement can develop their drama ideas. They will develop problem solving and critical thinking skills as they explore drama genre, structure and conventions. They will also investigate production skills to design, create and enhance their performance and the performances of others.

Experiences in Drama encourage originality, spontaneity and feelings of self-worth and offers the opportunity to enter imaginatively into other worlds, to consider issues and to explore emotions.

The department also run two senior school productions and House Drama competitions each year and pupils can audition for acting roles or sign up for a production team responsibility.

English

English is at the heart of children’s learning. Through language they receive much of their knowledge and acquire many of their skills. Language enables children both to communicate with others effectively for a variety of purposes, and to examine their own and others’ experiences, feelings and ideas. Due to the fact that language is central to children’s intellectual, emotional and social development, it has an essential role across the curriculum and helps pupils’ learning to be coherent and progressive.

Aims

- To enable pupils to develop skills of communicating and understanding;
- To enable pupils to deploy language for specific purposes and the needs of particular audiences;
- To establish a love of reading in its broadest sense that will develop pupils’ knowledge of, and response to, the world around them;
- To ensure that the individual needs of pupils are met, thus ensuring that all pupils, at all stages, realise their full potential in English.

Geography

Geography is the study of the Earth’s landscapes, people, places and environments; it is all about the wonderful world in which we live and the people we share it with.

At Heriot’s we have an excellent team of qualified, enthusiastic geographers who deliver courses in Geography to students from S1 to S6. We use a wide variety of teaching styles to cater for individual learning needs and to help develop positive attitudes towards our planet and its resources.

Class work is complemented by the use of ICT, GPS and GIS, multimedia, role play and debate. Pupils are encouraged to question and to progress their thinking skills and will have an opportunity to develop their creative and artistic flair. Active learning in the form of field trips is central to the course: our trips involve a number of Human and Physical Geography studies, both one day and residential, in the UK and abroad.

History and Modern Studies

History is taught to National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher levels. Modern Studies is also taught to National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher levels. Politics is taught at Higher level in S6.

The HMSP department aims to make sure that students enjoy a rich and varied experience of learning about the past and about the world as it is today. To this end, HMSP teachers deploy a variety of teaching methods so that classes will be interesting, illuminating, thought-provoking and fun. We hope that exposure to History and/or Modern Studies and/or Politics will contribute to the development of students as independent and critical thinkers who can fulfil their academic potential, whose knowledge and skills are expanded and who understand the importance of working with others as well as individually. We also hope that History and /or Modern Studies and/or Politics will help foster among students the tolerance, humanity and healthy scepticism that are the heart of what it means to be a good citizen in a liberal democratic society. And, just as important, we hope that students develop a love of History and/or Modern Studies and/or Politics as subjects.

Mathematics

The various courses of study in Mathematics offered by the Department all have the following aims:

- To contribute to the pupils' personal development and overall education;
- To enable pupils to develop to the limit of their capability the mathematical skills and understanding required for both their present and future needs;
- To develop an appreciation and enjoyment of Mathematics.

These aims are realised through courses which involve the pupils learning in a variety of ways, e.g.:

- By working together, as well as working independently;
- By involvement in problem solving and investigative activities;
- By carrying out practical work;
- By using graphic calculators and computers.

Every opportunity is taken to show the relevance of Mathematics and to present the subject in as interesting a way as possible. Pupils are encouraged to enter both Scottish and UK 'Mathematical Challenges' and the annual 'World Maths Day' Competition, the annual 'World Maths Day' Competition and Maths Week Scotland.

Modern Languages

Following an introductory Cultural Awareness course in P4 & P5, pupils begin learning French, German or Spanish from P6 and can continue studying this language through to National 5 or elect to switch to Mandarin in S1. Pupils have an opportunity to start learning a second Modern Language (Mandarin, Italian or Spanish) in S3, also leading to presentation for National 5, and are strongly encouraged to continue their language studies further up the School, with French, German, Italian, Mandarin and Spanish taught to both Higher and Advanced Higher. Regular exchange programmes are held with our partner schools in Continental Europe and China.

Aims

- To develop in all pupils at all stages the ability to communicate successfully in the language(s) studied;
- To equip pupils with an understanding of grammatical structures appropriate to their age & stage;
- To instil in pupils an appreciation of other cultures e.g. through film studies and project work;
- To encourage pupils to develop a positive and mature approach to their studies, helping them to prepare for National Examinations and – where appropriate – Higher Education.

Music

The Department offers certificate courses at National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher level. These curricula are enhanced by the teaching of advanced theory, general musicianship, harmony, history of music, and musical analysis. Specialist Bespoke Programmes are also available in these areas. In addition to varied and stimulating S1 and S2 curricula, the Department also provides specialist teaching in the Junior School from Nursery to P7,

with the emphasis on a rewarding, hands-on programme of practical experience for pupils of all ages and abilities. Additionally, many musical productions are rehearsed and performed, beginning with the Early Years' Nativities.

An extensive programme of extra-curricular activities is offered covering a range of musical styles: the principal ensembles comprising a full symphony orchestra, two string orchestras, three concert bands, seven choirs, brass ensemble, flute ensemble and saxophone ensemble, as well as several smaller choirs and ensembles. Approximately 700 pupils are involved in extra-curricular music from P3-S6. Regular concerts are given in and around the city, including the Usher Hall, Queen's Hall, St Cuthbert's Parish Church and St Giles' Cathedral. A team of over twenty Visiting Music Teachers offers one-to-one instrumental tuition on all orchestral instruments, as well as piano, singing, guitar and clarsach.

Philosophy and Religion

Philosophy and Religion will be a new subject for many pupils joining the school in S1. Bringing together aspects of philosophy, ethics, religious studies, critical thinking, psychology and sociology, the department has developed a unique course which acts a history of human thought (both secular and religious), a forum for the discussion of modern moral and philosophical problems, and a training ground for the skills needed for nuanced critical thought.

Philosophy and Religion lessons are characterised by respect and inclusivity. Religious and secular ideas are explored from an academically rigorous standpoint with pupils gaining the skills necessary for developing, explaining and defending their own viewpoints, and living in a multi-cultural society where there is a huge spectrum of beliefs and ideas. Topics include considering the aim of human life, exploring moral theories and debating key ethical issues within our society today such as the death penalty, war and artificial intelligence.

This wide ranging S1 and S2 curriculum allows pupils to go on to study our National 5 and Higher courses in Philosophy alongside our National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher courses in Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies (RMPS). Philosophy includes an array of fascinating topics exploring the epistemological works of Descartes and Hume and develop an understanding of ethical theories like Utilitarianism. RMPS is a course that inspires intellectual curiosity and includes an enquiry into the origins of the universe, considers who is responsible for evil and suffering and embarking on an in-depth study of Buddhism. Alongside this, RMPS fosters discussion on issues within medical ethics and debates the existence of God.

In addition, the department teaches Higher Psychology and Sociology. Psychology is the scientific study of the mind, brain and behaviour. This course takes an exciting look into sleep and dreams and their impact on behaviour whilst also understanding how social behaviour can be affected by conformity and obedience. Sociology is a detailed study of human society. The course engages with central ideas such as Functionalism, Marxism and Feminism and considers how culture and identity shape wider society.

Physical Education and Games

The PE Department encourages the development of body and mind through physical activity as well as exploring the attitudes and values associated with team activities and games. This is achieved through the PE curriculum and the wide range of extra-curricular activities on offer at Heriot's, which are supported by the department's highly committed staff.

Sport at George Heriot's is not purely about competition on the sports field, but also about maximum participation and educating pupils on the importance of living a healthy lifestyle. Generous playing fields and an Astroturf at Goldenacre provide an ideal environment for rugby, hockey, cricket, tennis and athletics, while indoor facilities include a state-of-the-art sports centre, including fitness suite, dance studio and games hall. There is also a strength and conditioning room and the original gymnasium.

PE is taught throughout the Junior and Senior School as an integral part of the timetable from P1 to S5; it is optional in S6. From Nursery onwards classes are taught in a variety of co-educational group activities which include swimming (from P2), racket sports, fitness/health and well-being, dance and gymnastics, as well as all the major games. Curricular games periods begin in P5 and are compulsory through to S5, though most pupils continue with a Games option throughout their school career. At all stages, pupils are fully encouraged to participate in a range of physical activities.

PE is also available as a certificate subject at National 5 and Higher, in an examination syllabus which covers both theoretical and practical aspects. This is a great opportunity for pupils to gain academic achievement from a subject they are passionate about.

Physics

Most Physics is taught on the top floor of the Lauriston Building but we like to think that the climb is worthwhile. We teach our subject in a down-to-earth, investigative manner which demonstrates the vital role which Physics has played in shaping modern society. We place considerable emphasis upon experimental work and we use an extensive range of apparatus, hardware and software to demonstrate the vital underlying principles.

In S1 & S2, we cover a wide spectrum of topics, aimed at laying sound foundations for the certificate work ahead. Our S3 and S4 students follow the SQA Physics course, National 5. This course covers relevant topics such as Dynamics, Electricity and Waves. In S5 & S6, we guide our older students through Higher and Advanced Higher Physics with considerable success.

In addition to our courses, we encourage our pupils to enter national competitions such as the range of competitions offered by the British Physics Olympiad.

Support for Learning

Support for Learning is a whole school department committed to raising the standard of attainment of pupils with additional support needs. The eight experienced and well-qualified teachers work with pupils of all ages, from Nursery to Sixth Year.

The Department has rooms in the Castle Building and the Grassmarket campus. Pupils are supported in a variety of ways: direct tuition; cooperative teaching; study skills advice; providing drop-in support sessions. Alternatively, advice may be given to class or subject teachers and to parents as to the best way to provide support for specific pupils. The Support for Learning staff also take an active role in all areas of school life.

Senior Library

Aims

- To support the School curriculum
- To enable pupils to learn independently
- To encourage reading for pleasure

The library provides access to a range of resources in both print and digital formats. Desktop PCs, iPads and printing facilities are also available for pupils use.

There is a well-stocked fiction section, with course texts, young adult fiction, as well as contemporary and classic literature. The non-fiction section includes copies of class textbooks, journals and materials to support independent research.

The library is open before and after school, including breaks and lunch times. S1 pupils attend sessions on Library Skills as part of their Citizenship course with S5 pupils attending information skills sessions focusing on research and referencing skills to support their academic studies.

A variety of book events are held annually including shadowing major book awards and author visits. Pupils can also volunteer to work in the library, helping with general library duties and the purchasing of book stock.

Sixth Year

At Heriot's, we believe that Sixth Year should build a bridge between school and, in most cases, Further/Higher Education. We are keen to encourage our pupils to develop a greater degree of personal responsibility and independence in a structured and supportive environment. The Sixth Year timetable allows a wide variety of combinations of subjects to be studied at different levels. In addition to the academic curriculum, a number of interest courses of both an academic and practical nature are offered. Voluntary Service is a particular feature of the Sixth Year curriculum and every pupil in S6 contributes to the School, and to the wider community, choosing from a substantial range of opportunities. S6 pupils continue to receive pastoral support throughout the year and work closely with our Careers and UCAS team in preparation for life beyond Heriot's. At the end of the summer term, our bespoke S6 Activities Programme is designed to give our pupils an exciting and enriching finale to their time at school; it focuses on transition and, of course, is a celebration of the time spent together. Traditionally, staff and pupils say a fond farewell at our annual S6 Ball in June.

Careers Guidance

At Heriot's we aim to provide a careers service which combines the expertise and knowledge of the Careers Department and the various careers agencies and professionals with which we work. A student-centred approach allows us to meet individual needs and our objective is to have a steady and realistic progression to enable students to make informed decisions about subject choice, Further and Higher Education and employment.

Careers education operates within the framework of the School's Guidance system and is included in the Citizenship programme across the Senior School. We also have a series of careers events and talks, and a number of activities surrounding National Careers Week in March. All S4 pupils are enrolled in the Morrisby careers guidance scheme and we have a work experience programme for pupils in S4 and S5. Pupils in S6 benefit from our interview skills workshop, delivered by an independent company. Through these activities, we aim to equip our students with the skills and knowledge they need to plan and manage their careers beyond school.

Pastoral Care

The pastoral care of children and young people is central to the ethos of the School. Each House has three Pastoral Care Teachers – the Head of House and two House Teachers - who are responsible for the well-being of the children in their care. They work closely with colleagues and families to help ensure the young person flourishes. Their work is overseen by the Head of Pastoral Care who is a Depute Head Teacher. She is also the named person and child protection co-ordinator.

Pupils have termly formal interviews with their Pastoral Care Teacher to check on pastoral issues and monitor their progress but regular informal contact also takes place throughout the session. The Pastoral Care Teachers supervise a team of Class Teachers who meet their class every morning for registration and have an overview of the pupil. Class Teachers and Pastoral Care Teachers liaise closely. The team welcomes liaison with families about any pastoral or academic concerns.

